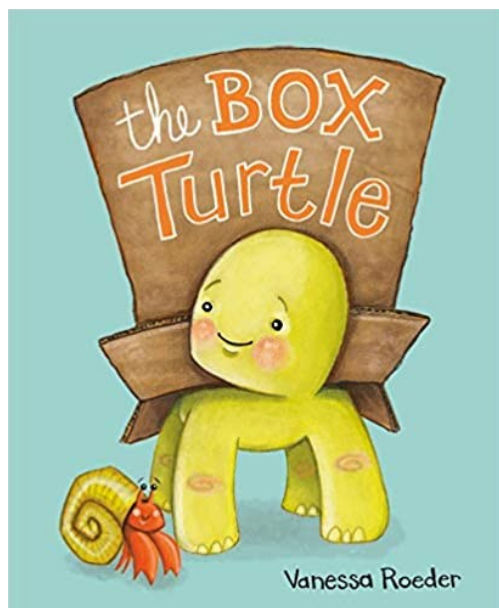


Indiana Center for the Book Announces the 2021 Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award



August 9, 2021 —INDIANAPOLIS – Today, Indiana Center for the Book Director, Suzanne Walker is excited to announce that Vanessa Roeder of Austin, Texas is the 2021 recipient of the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award for her book *The Box Turtle*, published by Penguin Random House.

Upon receiving the news, the author said, “This is such exciting news! I’m beyond thrilled to know that *The Box Turtle* has been [recognized] for such a wonderful award. Thank you for this incredible honor.”

This is the seventh year of the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award. This year during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, votes were submitted from 49 Indiana counties and over 2,300 Indiana children ages 0-5 voted. *The Box Turtle* garnered almost 40% of the vote. Votes were collected at public libraries, schools, and daycares along with a remote voting form available on the Indiana State Library’s website.

The Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award is an initiative of the Indiana Center for the Book to promote early childhood literacy in Indiana. The nominees are chosen by the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Committee from a list of books nominated by library staff who work with children all over Indiana.

The nominated books are chosen for their ability to encourage parents and children to use the Every Child Ready to Read® practices of talking, singing, reading, writing and playing together. Caregivers can use the Firefly books as a quality go-to resource for having fun and learning with their young children.

A program guide is also available for parents, librarians, and teachers to use with children:

<https://www.in.gov/library/files/FireflyProgramGuide-2021.pdf>

Indiana Center for the Book / Indiana State Library



Indiana Center for the Book
icb@library.in.gov
Indiana State Library
www.in.gov/library/icb.htm

LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS
**CENTER
FOR THE
BOOK**
INDIANA AFFILIATE



Indiana residents! Visit this link for *Box Turtle* resources!

<https://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=70639>